

RULINGS/COURT-GLANCE
WASHINGTON

-Unanimously swept aside a challenge that could have hobbled enforcement of STAT
drunken driving laws. The court ruled police do not have to save samples of
breath tests taken from suspected drunken drivers (California vs. Trombetta).

-Ruled 7-2 that state prosecutors are not barred from seeking a murder
conviction against a suspect even though a judge accepted a guilty plea to a
lesser crime -- manslaughter -- and imposed a sentence (Ohio vs. Johnson).

-Reinstated the conviction of Robert Williams for murdering a 10-year-old Des
Moines girl in 1968. The opinion reversed a ruling that police illegally coaxed
him to reveal the location of the body by saying she needed a 'Christian
burial' (Nix vs. Williams).

-Unanimously held that California may seek to garnish the wages of U.S.
Postal Service employees to collect delinquent state income taxes (Franchise Tax
Board vs. U.S. Postal Service).

-Unanimously overturned a Michigan court ruling allowing the state to
regulate farmers' sale of agricultural products (Michigan Cannery vs.
Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Board).

-Voted 9-0 that Arkansas prosecutors did not violate a murder defendant's
rights by making a plea bargain offer and then withdrawing it before it could be
approved by a judge (Mabry vs. Johnson). Cases accepted

-Took up an antitrust case testing whether state laws give the city of Eau
Claire, Wis., the power to hold a monopoly on sewage treatment services for
surrounding towns (Town of Hallie vs. City of Eau Claire).

-Agreed to consider, in conjunction with a case testing the CIA's ability
to keep secret the identities of intelligence sources, whether the universities
and institutions where those sources work can be kept secret (Sims v. CIA) .

-Said it will decide whether an independent trucker can be forced to tell his
trucking association that he is changing his rates before he can put the change
into effect (Southern Motor Conference vs. U.S.).

-Agreed to review a federal judge's decision to hold a trial on charges a
Dean Whitter Reynolds employee improperly invested a customers' money. The firm
said the case should go to arbitration (Dean Whitter vs. Byrd). Cases Rejected

-Voting 7-2, refused to decide whether the Equal Employment Opportunity
Commission has the authority to force employers to pay women the same wages they
pay men for equal work (EEOC vs. Allstate).

-Refused to review a lower court ruling preventing the National Labor
Relations Board from ordering a company into union negotiations without backing
from a majority of workers (Local 222 v. NLRB).

-Let stand a ruling against a Maine police officer who filed a \$3.3 million
suit claiming he was libeled by a newspaper editorial describing him as
seriously overweight (Caron v. Bangor Publishing).

-Dismissed an appeal of an Illinois law allowing county tax officials to put
private property up for sale for non-payment of taxes without informing mortgage
holders (Blum vs. Rosewell).